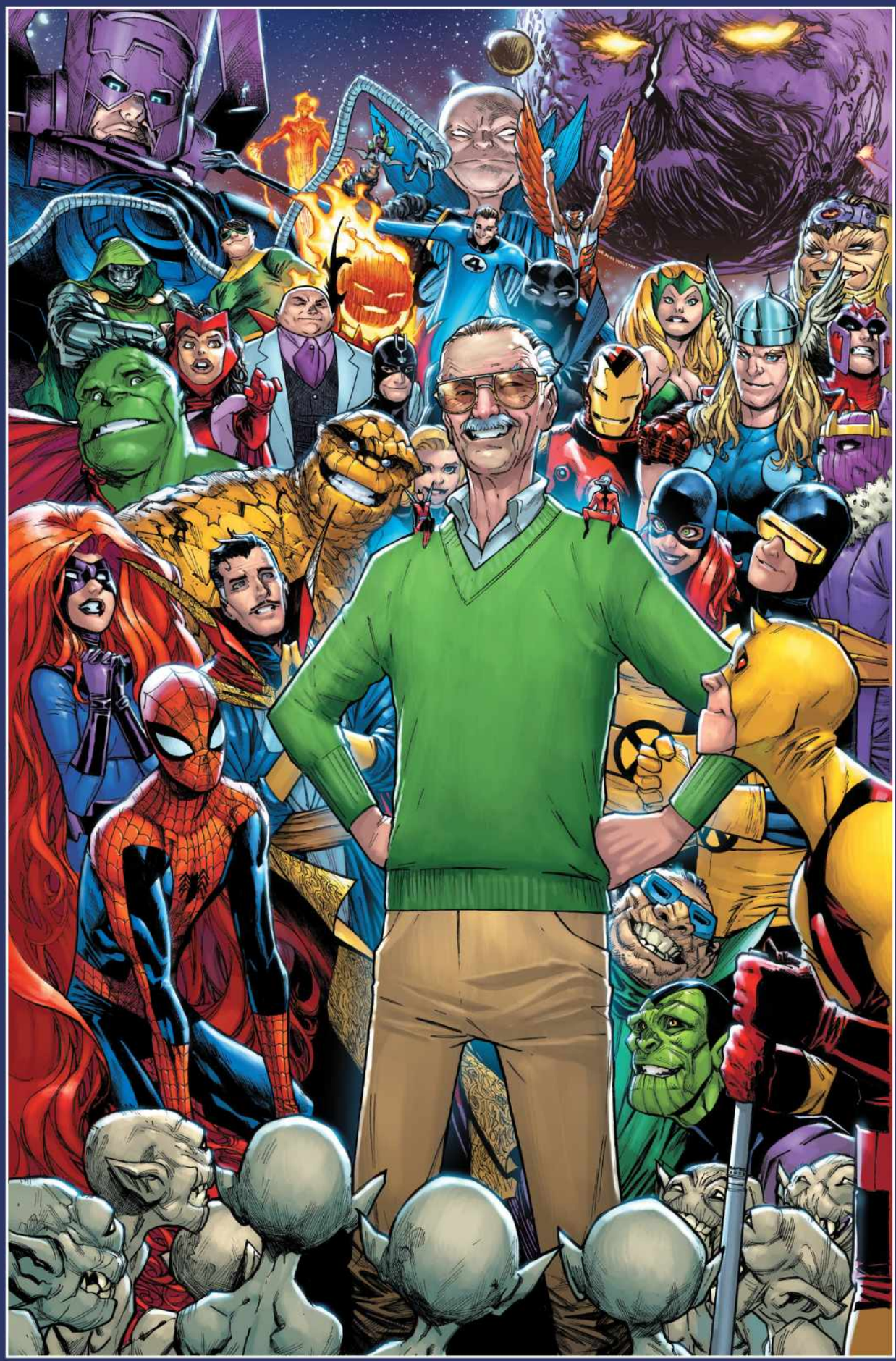
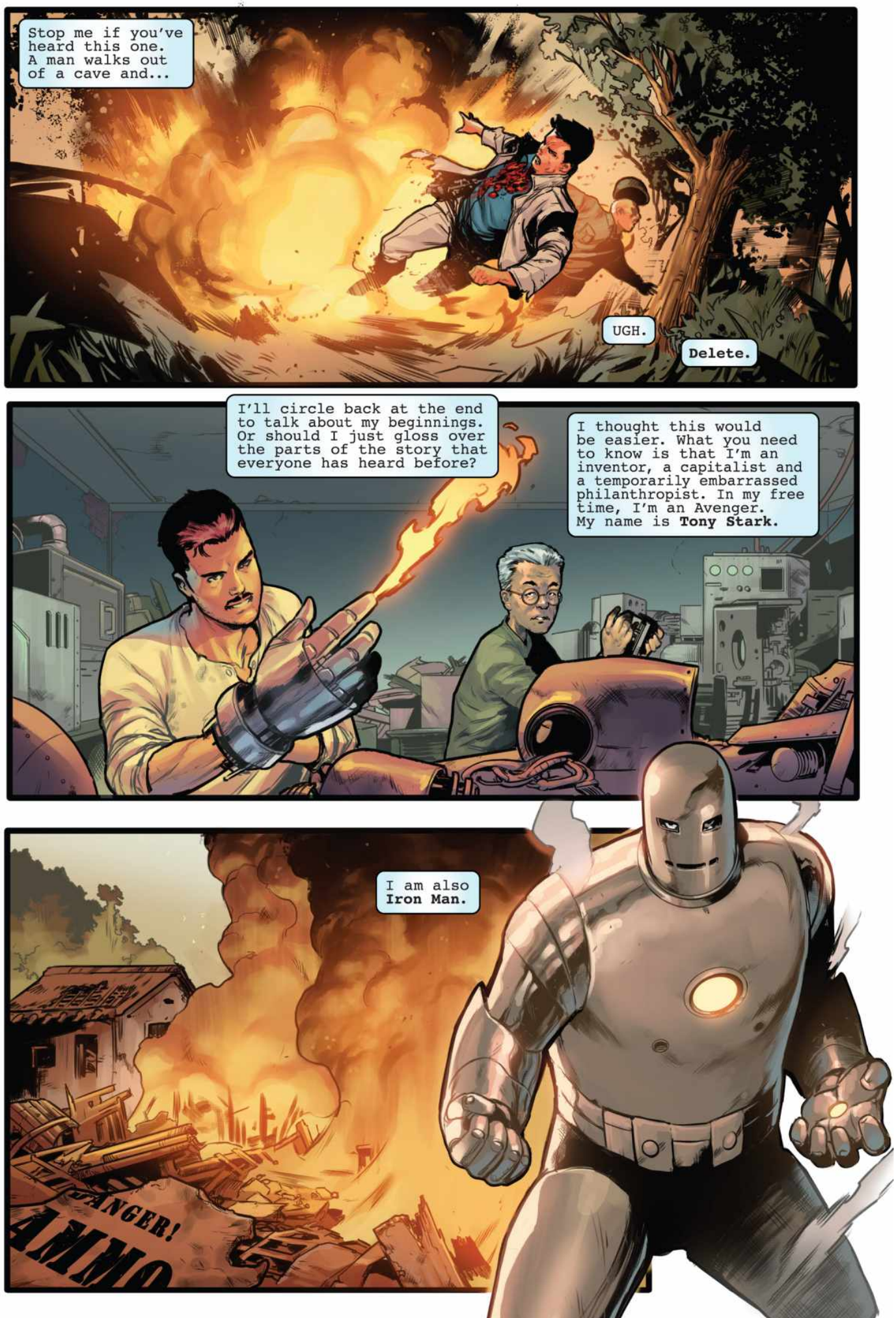
MARVEL
1
LGY#651
THE INVINCIBLE
IRON MAN
GERRY DUGGAN
JUAN FRIGERI
BRYAN VALENZA

100 YEARS AND STILL INSPIRING US ALL



WE LOVE YOU, STAN!


Stop me if you've heard this one. A man walks out of a cave and...
UGH.
Delete.
I'll circle back at the end to talk about my beginnings. Or should I just gloss over the parts of the story that everyone has heard before?
I thought this would be easier. What you need to know is that I'm an inventor, a capitalist and a temporarily embarrassed philanthropist. In my free time, I'm an Avenger. My name is **Tony Stark.**
I am also **Iron Man.**
ANGER!
AMMO

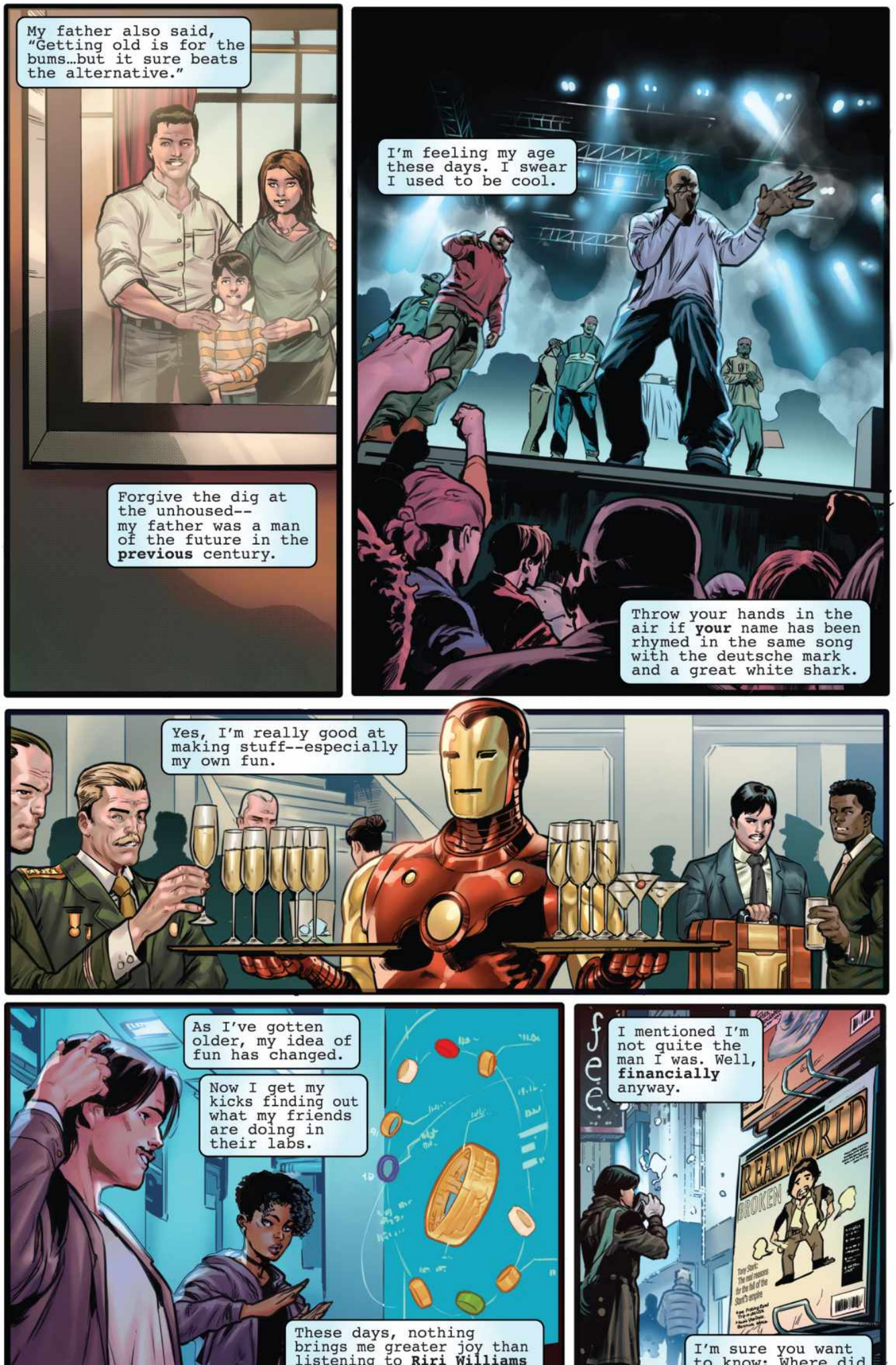
My father, Howard Stark, was a man of some wisdom. He used to say, "The good times are never as good as they seem, and the bad times are never as low."
He was right. Look at those *haircuts*.

Before Apple, Microsoft, Feilong Industries and all the rest that would try to follow me, **Stark Industries** was the richest company in the world...

...and I, one of its richest men. In ones and zeroes **and** firepower.
The Iron Man armor was the embodiment of it all.

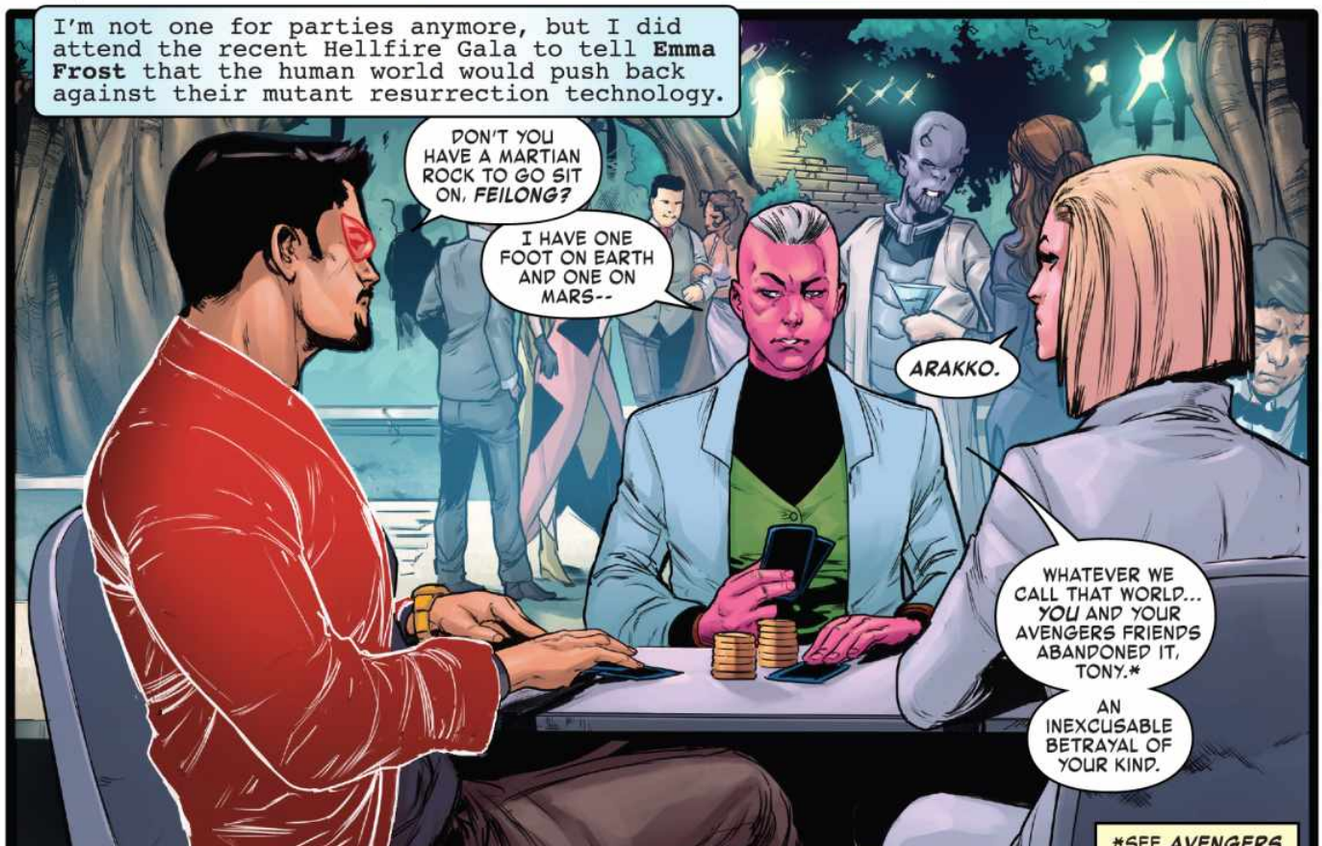
I'll do a deeper dive later on, but for those who don't know, I was never one for **moderation.** I drank for a lot of reasons.
Boredom, chief among them. Doing what I do...making new things... the act of creation means

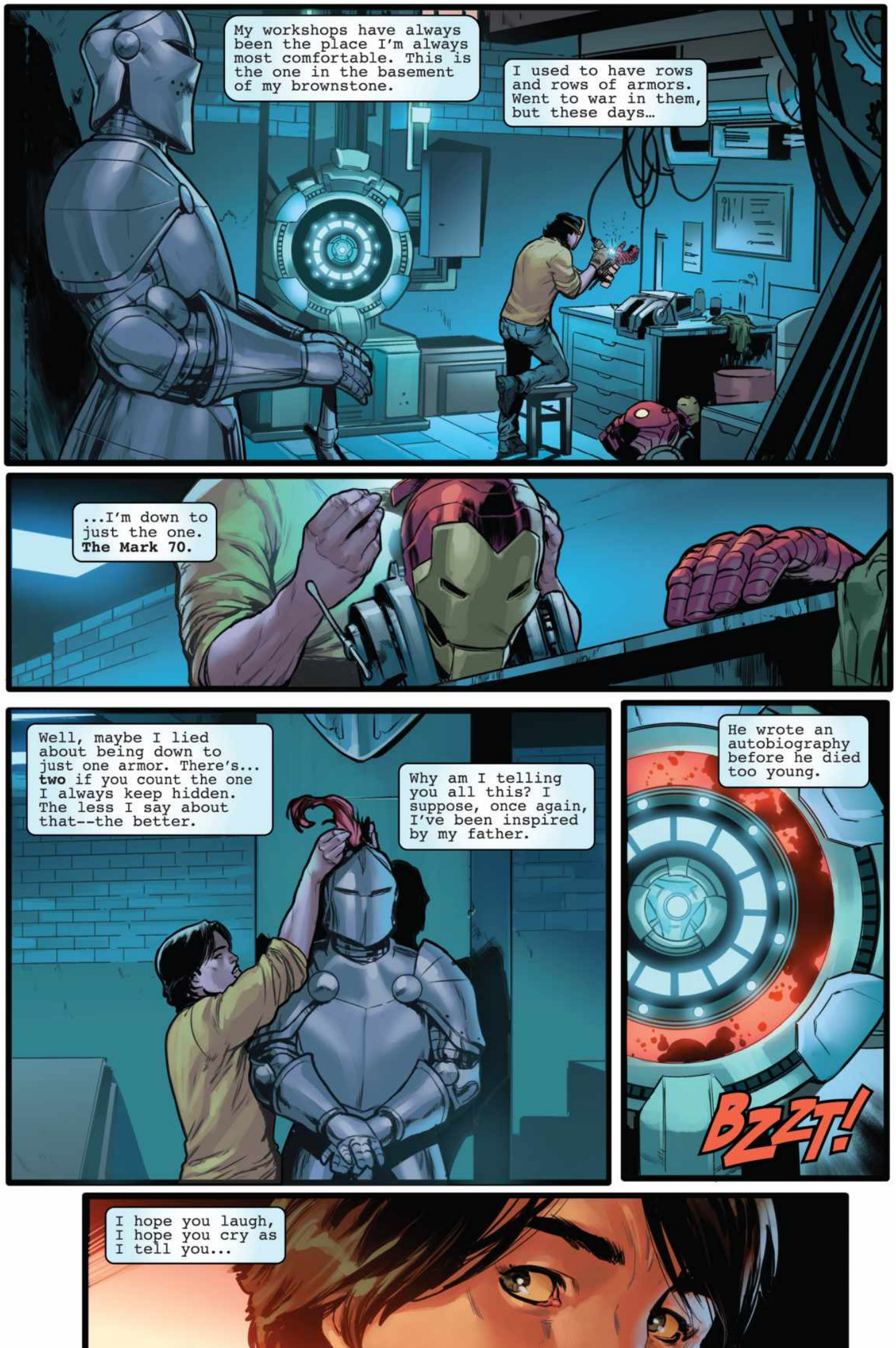
I've lived all around this world and off of it.
Before this place was called "Avengers Mansion," it was just the "Stark Residence." Don't own it anymore.
I think it's **still** an Avengers-themed hotel? Can that be right? B.O.S.S., make a note to fact-check that. If I had the money...
Used to own the largest plot in Malibu. Berserker 7 tore it down, I think?
Anyway, don't own that pad anymore either.
Former Avengers Tower, formerly Stark Tower.
I dunno what it is now. Rent was cheap 'cause it used to get attacked. Point is, I don't own that either.
I'm not gonna publish the exact address, for obvious reasons, but I **do** still own a little piece of New York property. She may not look like much, but she's got it where it counts.
Eh. Delete that. I don't want to reference any previous pop culture. I want this to be timeless.
The company with my name on it? Or symbol, I guess?
Don't own that.
Iron Man is still an Avenger. I'll tell you my greatest untold tales. From **both coasts.**
I **do** get to keep the bruises.


My father also said, "Getting old is for the bums…but it sure beats the alternative."
Forgive the dig at the unhoused-- my father was a man of the future in the **previous** century.
I'm feeling my age these days. I swear I used to be cool.
Throw your hands in the air if **your** name has been rhymed in the same song with the deutsche mark and a great white shark.
Yes, I'm really good at making stuff--especially my own fun.
As I've gotten older, my idea of fun has changed.
Now I get my kicks finding out what my friends are doing in their labs.
These days, nothing brings me greater joy than listening to **Riri Williams**
I mentioned I'm not quite the man I was. Well, **financially** anyway.
REAL WORLD BROKEN
I'm sure you want to know: Where did

I spent my vast fortune buying up incredibly dangerous weapons of mass destruction, and it's my most precious secret. By the time this story is told, I'll have sorted it out.
Somehow.
The horde's in a **very** secure undisclosed location. I would never tell you. Only my best friend, **Rhodey**, knows where to find it.

Let's hope the many guns on the mantle in this story don't actually get taken down and fired later, 'cause that would probably mean the world is ending.
Seriously. Even the Stilt-Man's stilts are in there.


I'm not one for parties anymore, but I did attend the recent Hellfire Gala to tell **Emma Frost** that the human world would push back against their mutant resurrection technology.
DON'T YOU HAVE A MARTIAN ROCK TO GO SIT ON, *FEILONG?*
I HAVE ONE FOOT ON EARTH AND ONE ON MARS--
ARAKKO.
WHATEVER WE CALL THAT WORLD... *YOU* AND YOUR AVENGERS FRIENDS ABANDONED IT, TONY.*
AN INEXCUSABLE BETRAYAL OF YOUR KIND.
*SEE AVENGERS


My workshops have always been the place I'm always most comfortable. This is the one in the basement of my brownstone.
I used to have rows and rows of armors. Went to war in them, but these days…
...I'm down to just the one. **The Mark 70.**
Well, maybe I lied about being down to just one armor. There's... **two** if you count the one I always keep hidden. The less I say about that--the better.
Why am I telling you all this? I suppose, once again, I've been inspired by my father.
He wrote an autobiography before he died too young.
BZZT!
I hope you laugh, I hope you cry as I tell you...

...my life's story.

You would think a person would wait for their golden years to attempt their autobiography.
Sixty sounds about right? But when you're in my business…
…never put off making something today, because tomorrow may never come.

WHEN MULTIBILLIONAIRE INDUSTRIALIST TONY STARK, INVENTOR EXTRAORDINAIRE, DONS HIS SOLAR-CHARGED, STEEL-MESH ARMOR, HE BECOMES A HIGH-TECH WARRIOR— THE WORLD'S GREATEST HUMAN FIGHTING MACHINE!

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS...

THE INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

"THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF TONY STARK"

CHAPTER ONE

GERRY DUGGAN
WRITER

JUAN FRIGERI
ARTIST

BRYAN VALENZA
COLORIST

VC's JOE CARAMAGNA
LETTERER

KAEL NGU
COVER ARTIST

MARCO CHECCHETTO & MARCIO MENYZ; PEPE LARRAZ & MARTE GRACIA; BOB LAYTON & PAUL MOUNTS; JOHN ROMITA JR. & FRANK D'ARMATA; DECLAN SHALVEY; IVAN TAO; LUCIANO VECCHIO
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

ADAM DEL RE
SENIOR DESIGNER

KAT GREGOROWICZ
ASSISTANT EDITOR

DARREN SHAN
EDITOR

TOM BREVOORT
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

C.B. CEBULSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

IRON MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK & JACK KIRBY

I'm lucky to be alive.

Not everyone is. I overhear the chatter as I'm carted off...
DO NOT CRO

...one of my neighbors is dead on the scene.

I wonder who it was, and then, if I could, I'd laugh... what would it matter?

I don't know any of my neighbors anyway.
IF THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH HIS GENERATOR, WE COULDN'T FIND IT, CAP.
HE'S GOING TO BE UPSET WHEN HE COMES TO.
HE'S AWAKE, RHODEY...
...HE'S JUST PLAYING POSSUM.
IT *WASN'T* AN ACCIDENT. A MOMENT BEFORE THE EXPLOSION, THE REACTOR...IT WAS CORRUPTED, AND THEN IT PHASED BACK...IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

TONY, WE'VE LOOKED INTO IT AND FOUND *NOTHING.*
I DIDN'T FIND ANYTHING.

YOU BETTER HOPE YOU'RE BOTH WRONG--OTHERWISE... THERE'S SOMEONE OUT THERE *SMARTER* THAN US.

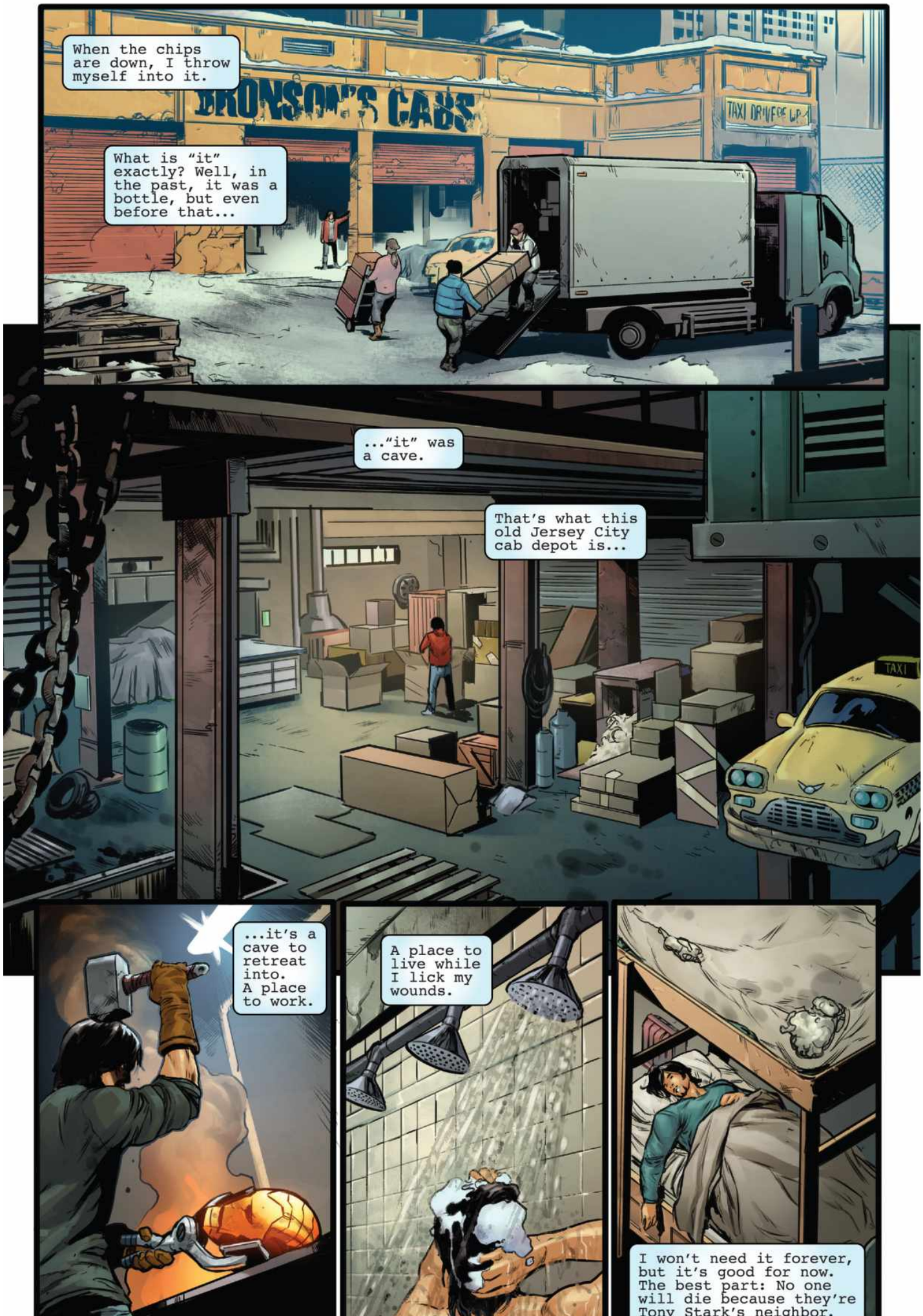
MAYBE, MAN, BUT... MAYBE IT WAS ALSO A MISTAKE WITH YOUR REACTOR?
IF NOT... THE WINNING ARGUMENT AGAINST YOU IS GONNA BE--

--THAT IT WAS A MISTAKE THAT I WAS LIVING IN A RESIDENTIAL AREA.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD BUNK WITH ME.
NO.
I push my friends away. It's not safe to be in my

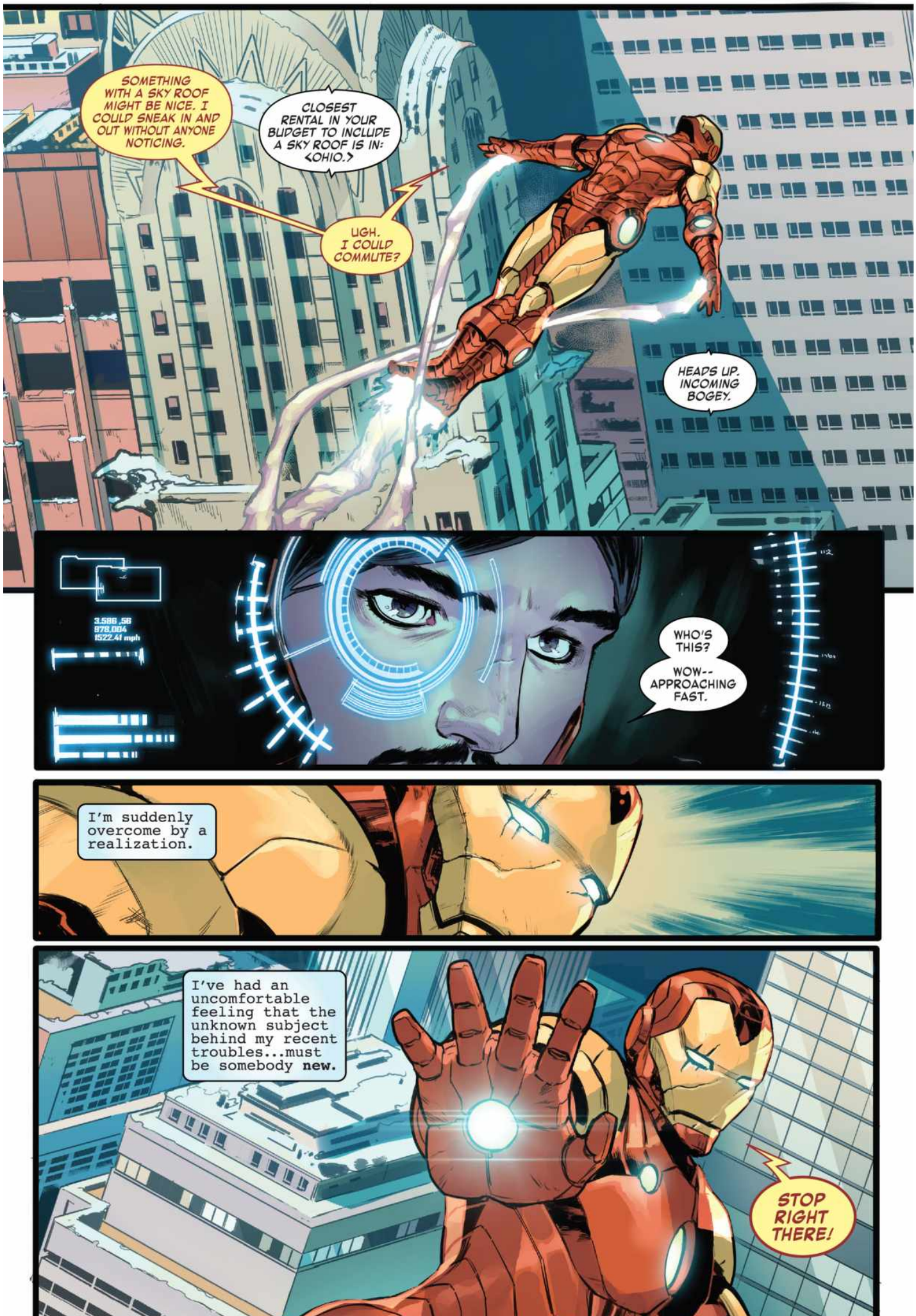
I pay for the funeral arrangements of the woman I didn't know.
Marielle Marcus. She immigrated here in the '70s. Lived a good life. Just not long enough.
Remember her name.
She will be avenged.

After a few days, I meet with my attorney... Jennifer Walters, A.K.A. **She-Hulk.**
IS IT DONE, JEN?
I DID WHAT YOU ASKED. BUT I HAVE TO TELL YOU IT'S NOT ADVISABLE TO--
I APPRECIATE THE CONCERN. I KNOW YOU'RE JUST DOING YOUR JOB. I WANT TO DO IT *MY* WAY.
TONY, SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO ARE SUING YOU FOR DAMAGES FROM THE EXPLOSION WEREN'T EVEN IN NEW YORK CITY THAT DAY.
I CAN PROVE ONE GUY WAS ACROSS THE RIVER IN--
DAMMIT, JEN--
--PAY THEM ALL OFF!

...
THERE MAY BE CRIMINAL CHARGES. BUT YOU'RE SMART--YOU KNOW THAT ALREADY.
EVEN WITHOUT A SUIT, YOU STILL HAVE THE BEST REPULSORS IN THE BUSINESS, TONY.
I'M SORRY.
NO, IT'S REFRESHING TO GET YELLED AT BY A CLIENT. NOBODY DOES THAT ANYMORE.
I COULDN'T FIND ANYTHING WRONG WITH THE REACTOR. RIRI COULDN'T. HELL, I EVEN SUCKED IT UP AND ASKED REED RICHARDS.
IT JUST SUDDENLY... LOST ITS STABILITY.
HA.
MAYBE JUST LIKE ME!
YOU'VE GOT POWER OF ATTORNEY.
SETTLE. PAY EVERYBODY OFF.
AND IF WE STRIKE BEDROCK IN YOUR CHECKING ACCOUNT?
WELL, I'LL HAVE TO GO INVENT SOMETHING.


When the chips are down, I throw myself into it.
BRONSON'S CABS
TAXI DRIVERS L.P.
What is "it" exactly? Well, in the past, it was a bottle, but even before that...
..."it" was a cave.
That's what this old Jersey City cab depot is...
TAXI
...it's a cave to retreat into. A place to work.
A place to live while I lick my wounds.
I won't need it forever, but it's good for now. The best part: No one will die because they're Tony Stark's neighbor.

I make repairs to the Mark 70, and I'm done wallowing in self-pity for now.
The 70 needs a test flight, and I'd like a proper apartment--if I can find one that will work on a **budget.**
Damn, I **hate** that word.
B.O.S.S., LOAD UP THE REAL ESTATE LISTINGS--THEY'RE TODAY'S FLIGHT PLAN.


SOMETHING WITH A SKY ROOF MIGHT BE NICE. I COULD SNEAK IN AND OUT WITHOUT ANYONE NOTICING.
CLOSEST RENTAL IN YOUR BUDGET TO INCLUDE A SKY ROOF IS IN: <OHIO.>
UGH. I COULD COMMUTE?
HEADS UP. INCOMING BOGEY.
3,586 .56
978,004
1522.41 mph
WHO'S THIS?
WOW-- APPROACHING FAST.
I'm suddenly overcome by a realization.
I've had an uncomfortable feeling that the unknown subject behind my recent troubles...must be somebody **new.**
STOP RIGHT THERE!

SKRABOOM!
UGHN!
SKRASHK!
OOF!
SORRY, FOLKS...
...LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GOING BACK TO REMOTE WORKING FOR A WHILE.
BY THE WAY, YOU GUYS DID SEE THE OTHER GUY IN ARMOR PUNCH ME IN HERE, RIGHT?
I DUNNO. I LOOKED UP AND SUDDENLY, YOU TOTALED MY OFFICE!
SIGH
You know things aren't going well when you start to feel like Spider-Man in New York City.
STAY DOWN!
AND YOU-- YOU'RE PISSING ME OFF.

IF IT WAS YOU WHO BLEW UP MY HOME, AND KILLED MY NEIGHBOR, YOU SHOULD CONFESS NOW WHILE THE MEDIA IS HERE.
IT'LL INCREASE THE ODDS I PULL MY PUNCHES AND YOU SURVIVE THIS.
DIDN'T YOU BLOW UP YOUR HOME?
The voice is heavily modulated. No identifying it.
I'M JUST THE MESSENGER. I WOULDN'T CONCERN YOURSELF WITH WHO I AM--
--YOU WON'T BE ALIVE MUCH LONGER TO CARE!
SKRABOOM!
MAYDAY, MAYDAY! THIS IS NY-ONE! WE'RE COMING DOWN OVER

THIS IS IRON MAN ON ALL FREQUENCIES-- AVOID THE AIR OVER MIDTOWN.
STEADY, PILOT. I'VE GOT YOU!

BEFORE THIS IS OVER AND I'M UNMASKED, YOU'LL BE DEAD, STARK.
BWEEM!

AARGH!
KRRR!

ALL RIGHT, "MESSENGER." LET'S SEE IF YOU KNOW THE SAFEST WAY TO AFFECT A COPTER RESCUE?

WHO CARES?
YOU SHOULD.
YOU'RE GONNA HELP OUT. THE FIRST THING YOU WANT TO DO IS GET RID OF THOSE PESKY ROTORS.
CHAKK!
CHAKK!
TARGET LOCKED
DEPLOY NONLETHAL ROUND THREE.
PAFF
SLASH!

THANKS FOR FLYING STARK AIR.
WE WERE ALMOST KILLED!
?SIGH?
DON'T FORGET TO GIVE ME A THUMBS-UP AND FIVE STARS, FOLKS. REALLY HELPS US AVENGERS OUT.
I hit the unsub in the armor with a non-Newtonian gunk (that's a scientific term) that will fill his thrusters and send him down...
...'course, I'm going to help in that department.
BOOM!
BEFORE I KILL THAT NICE WOMAN YOU'RE TUTORING, MIND TELLING ME IF SHE'S A WARD OR A DATE?
YOU NEVER CAN TELL WITH YOU CAPITALIST PIGS.
FIRST, I CAN'T TEACH THAT WOMAN ANYTHING...

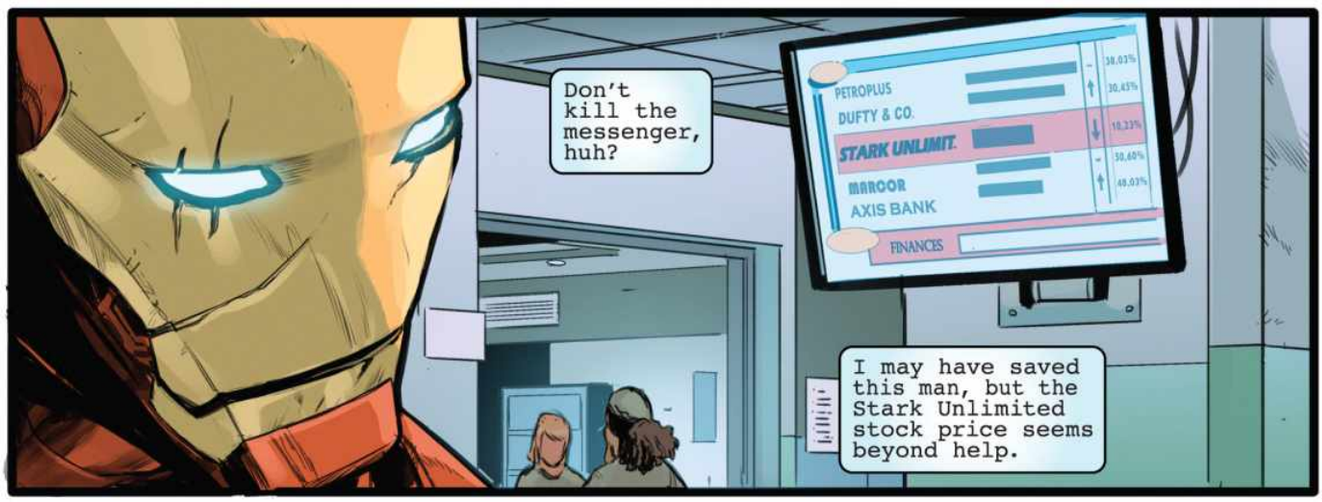
...BUT I CAN TEACH YOU SOME MANNERS.
SPLAKK!
That'd be a clean break of the ulna and radius--if there was anybody home.
YOU'RE A DRONE.
Time to shred this thing and go home.
You know... I mentioned Spider-Man before.
He's talked about having a "buzzing in his head" when he's in danger, and I think we all have it to a certain extent.
Listening to that

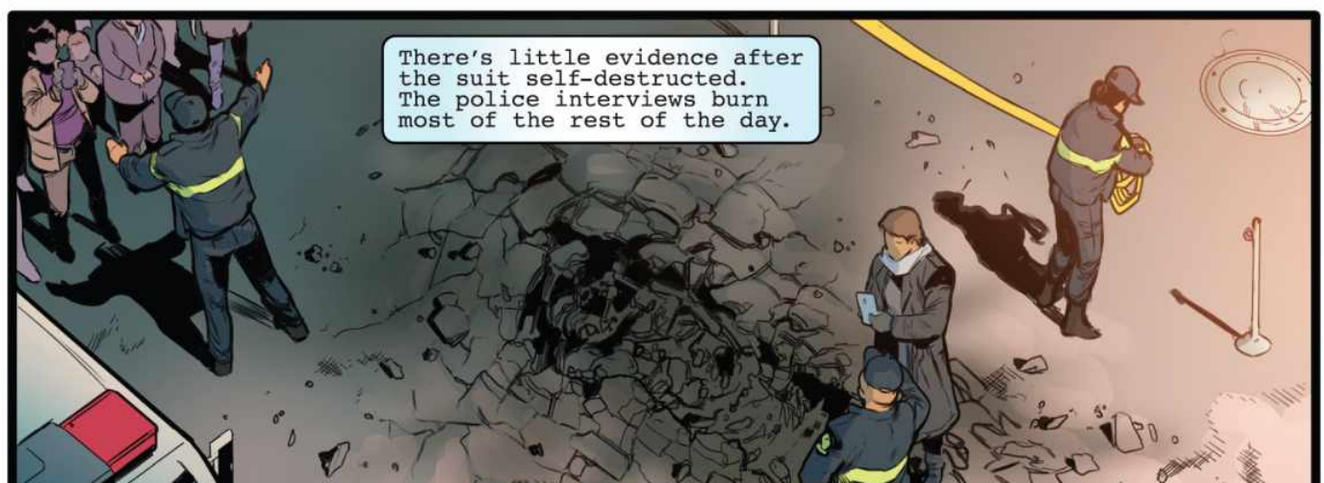
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
I deploy some liquid nitrogen.
PZZZ
A few seconds and that armor is ready to crack like an egg.
KRAK
OH GOD.
B.O.S.S., CALL EMS!

Facial recognition identifies him as the owner of a messenger service by the name of Elliot Buoncristiano. He was **kidnapped** two days ago.
He's sedated and intubated and was clearly meant to be my next "victim."
SCANS INDICATE THE PADDING IN THE SUIT IS ACTUALLY <PLASTIC EXPLOSIVE.>
JAM ALL SIGNALS! HOW LONG DO I HAVE?
SECONDS.
TIME TO FLY!
BADOOM!
SET A COURSE FOR THE CLOSEST HOSPITAL!

I almost hit that armor with everything I had. Insinuating I had an improper relationship with Riri almost sealed the deal.

And this poor kidnapped man was supposed to **die**.


Don't kill the messenger, huh?
PETROPLUS
DUFTY & CO.
STARK UNLIMIT.
MAROOR
AXIS BANK
FINANCES
I may have saved this man, but the Stark Unlimited stock price seems beyond help.


There's little evidence after the suit self-destructed. The police interviews burn most of the rest of the day.

I really liked this place.
I swing by with some Chinese and root beer to say goodbye.
After today, I'm sure somebody is gunning for me.
This was no accident.

LITTERING #$%&!

EXCUSE ME, THIS IS THE STARK MUSEUM OF LITTER. MAIN ATTRACTION: MY LIFE.

AND IT WILL ALL BE CLEANED UP AND SOLD OFF TOMORROW.

When the chips are down, the best thing an addict can do is stick to the plan.
A.A.
Good habits are good. Bad habits are bad.
Coffee
CREAM OR SUGAR?
NO, THANKS.
MY NAME IS JAN, AND I'M AN ALCOHOLIC.
HI, JAN.
I sat listening, but…I didn't hear a word.
Everyone around me is at risk until I find the person trying to kill me.
I ducked out a few minutes early. I wasn't even sure where my legs were

...bad habits are bad. I wake up in the men's room.
McALEXANDER'S PUB
Not sure how I ended up inside.
What is happening to me?
It's humbling when you suit up, do your best, and it all goes wrong...
...and you end up flat on your ass, and there's not a damn thing you can do about it.
UGHN...

When you're a guy like me with a disease... you just gotta put one foot in front of the other and keep going.
DUDE-- IS THAT TONY STARK?
HUURK.
IT IS HIM!
I'm not done fighting. Not by a long shot. I just... I...

...NEED HELP.
NEXT:

#2 Variant by Chris Allen

#2 Variant by Bob Layton

#2 Variant by Peach Momoko

#2 Variant by Esad Ribic

#2: IRON MAN VS. IRONHEART!

THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS ON TONY'S LIFE CONTINUE AS A FAMILIAR FOE RETURNS TO TAKE HIM DOWN. IT'LL BE UP TO IRON MAN AND IRONHEART TO STOP HIM...BUT WHAT SECRET IS RIRI WILLIAMS HARBORING FROM TONY? AND WILL THIS CHANGE THEIR RELATIONSHIP FOREVER?

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ZONE